WHEREAS, in 2016, 500,000 children in the United States were estimated to have blood lead levels greater than the intervention level recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and,

WHEREAS, Illinois identified more than 8,300 children with confirmed blood lead levels greater than the intervention level recommended by the CDC; and,

WHEREAS, the major source of lead exposure among Illinois children continues to be lead-contaminated dust and lead-based paint banned in 1978; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois passed the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act in 1973 to set mandatory assessment, testing, and reporting requirements in addition to establishing the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in the Illinois Department of Public Health to monitor the identification and treatment of lead poisoned children; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is pleased to join with health care professionals, agencies, and their delegates in observance of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, in an effort to increase awareness and promote prevention of lead poisoning in children;

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 22-28, 2017, as CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK in Illinois and encourage all citizens to recognize the prevalence of lead poisoning in our society and to join in working toward eradication of this unfortunate and preventable condition.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield, this ELEVENTH day of OCTOBER, in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and SEVENTEEN, and of the State of Illinois, one hundred and NINETY-NINTH.